

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A direct backlight module, comprising:

- a diffuser;
- a reflecting plate disposed under the diffuser;
- an illumination tube disposed between the diffuser and the reflecting plate; and
- a support disposed on ~~[[the]]~~ a non-edge part of the reflecting plate and between the diffuser and the reflecting plate for supporting the diffuser and ~~the illumination tube simultaneously and preventing bending of the diffuser and illumination tube~~, wherein the support has a fitting portion into which the illumination tube directly fits.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first gap exists between the support and the diffuser to protect the diffuser from deformation due to thermal expansion ~~and contraction~~ of the support.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein a second gap exists between the fitting portion of the support and the illumination tube to protect the illumination tube from deformation due to thermal expansion ~~and contraction~~ of the support.

Claim 4 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reflecting plate further comprises a groove and the support further comprises an engaging portion engaged in the groove.

Claim 5 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support is fixed to the reflecting plate by glue.

Claim 6 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 5, wherein the support is fixed to the reflecting plate by hot glue.

Claim 7 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fitting portion of the support is a circular hole.

Claim 8 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fitting portion of the support is a U-shaped recess.

Claim 9 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support has a substantially rectangular shape.

Claim 10 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support has a substantially polygonal shape.

Claim 11 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support has a substantially curved shape.

Claim 12 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support is made of plastic.

Claim 13 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a diffusing plate disposed on the diffuser.

Claim 14 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a prism disposed on the diffuser.

Claim 15 (original): The direct backlight module as claimed in claim 13, further comprising a prism disposed on the diffusing plate.

Claim 16 (new): A direct backlight module, comprising:
a diffuser;
a reflecting plate disposed under the diffuser;

an illumination tube disposed between the diffuser and the reflecting plate; and
a support disposed on the reflecting plate and between the diffuser and the reflecting plate for supporting the diffuser and the illumination tube simultaneously, wherein the support has a fitting portion into which the illumination tube directly fits, and a first gap exists between the support and the diffuser to protect the diffuser from deformation due to thermal expansion of the support.

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